GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:172
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2005
PRESERVATION AND MAINTENANCE OF HERITAGE SITES
Seth Shri Lakshman Chandra

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that many important heritage monuments are getting damaged and encroached upon in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to preserve, protect and maintain these heritage monuments?

Answer

MINISTER FOR INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 172 FOR 4.8.2005 REGARDING PRESERVATION AND MAINTENANCE OF HERITAGE SITES

(a) & (b) No, Sir. Government has no information that many important monuments are getting damaged. Encroachments have been, however, noticed in some of the protected monuments. State-wise details are being collected.

(c) The ASI has regular watch and ward staff for the security of the protected monuments. Their strength has been augmented through engagement of private security guards, state police personnel and CISF. In the case of encroachments, legal measures have been initiated by the ASI as per the provisions of the Ancient Monument and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 an rules made thereunder. ASI has also taken up a phased programme of providing physical protection through fencing of the monuments. The conservation programme of the ASI includes regular maintenance, structural conservation, special repairs, chemical preservation and development of environs.